

BEFORE THE SOUTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

In the Matter of the Suspension or)	
)	CONSENT ORDER OF
Revocation of the Educator)	
)	SUSPENSION
Certificate of Deborah Rogers,)	
)	
Certificate 141857)	

SUMMARY OF THE CASE

The South Carolina State Board of Education (State Board) considered this matter on December 14, 2005. On May 27, 2005, the South Carolina Department of Education (Department) sent Deborah Rogers a notice of her right to a hearing before the State Board concerning the possible suspension of her South Carolina educator certificate 141857 by certified mail, return receipt, restricted delivery, and regular mail. Ms. Rogers received the notice as evidenced by a postal receipt bearing her signature. Ms. Rogers requested a hearing, which was scheduled for November 14, 2005, but subsequently agreed to waive her right to a hearing and to accept the voluntary suspension of her certificate for a period that would commence retroactively on May 26, 2005, and end on January 31, 2006. After considering the evidence presented, the State Board voted to order the suspension of Ms. Rogers' certificate for the agreed upon period.

Deborah
Rogers,
Certificate
141857

Initial Here

Date

FINDINGS OF FACT

Ms. Rogers holds a South Carolina educator certificate and has nine years of teaching experience. During the 2004-2005 school year, Ms. Rogers was under contract with Dillon County School District Three and was assigned to teach third grade at Latta Elementary School. Ms. Rogers was placed on administrative leave on April 22, 2005, following allegations that she had used an excessive and inappropriate disciplinary technique, throwing a book at a student.

On April 25, 2005, Ms. Rogers was arrested on charges of assault and battery related to the book-throwing incident. Ms. Rogers subsequently resigned from the District, effective May 26, 2005. On August 2, 2005, Ms. Rogers was acquitted of the assault and battery charge.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

"The State Board of Education may, for just cause, either revoke or suspend the certificate of any person." S.C. Code Ann. §59-25-150 (2004), S.C. Code Ann. §59-25-160 (2004); 24 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 43-58. Just cause includes unprofessional conduct. S.C. Code Ann. § 59-25-160 (2004). The State Board finds that the information presented supports its determination that just cause exists to suspend Ms. Rogers' certificate, commencing retroactively on April 22, 2005, through January 31, 2006. If Ms. Rogers wishes to have her certificate reinstated at the end of the suspension period, she must provide written notification to that effect to the Office of Educator Certification of the Department.

South Carolina State Board of Education

By: /S/ Paul Forrester

Paul M. Forrester

Chair

Columbia, South Carolina

December 14, 2005

I, Deborah Rogers , SC Educator Certificate 141857, do hereby agree to the proposed Consent Order of Suspension, consisting of two pages, and understand that this Order will be presented to the State Board of Education for approval on December 14, 2005.

/s/ Deborah Rogers
Deborah Rogers

12/7/05
Date